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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

BRIEFING MEMORANDUM

A1057

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2/21/80

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RECEIVED IN HA:

FEB 22 1980

(Entire Text)

February 21, 1980

To: P - Mr. Newsom

From: S/OL - Nelson Ledsky

Subject: Your Meeting with Argentine Ambassador
Aja Espil, Friday, February 22, 5:00 p.m.

You have called in Ambassador Aja Espil to seek Argentina's support for our position on the Olympics.

In Latin America and the Caribbean only Chile, Guatemala, Honduras, Haiti and Paraguay are committed not to participate in the Moscow Olympics. Most others are on the fence, waiting for a strong trend to develop which they can follow, whichever direction it takes. (Attached is an analysis of the state of play in Latin America.) With the support we now have from governments elsewhere in the world, we might be able to encourage a few of the major countries in the hemisphere to join us and start a trend in our favor.

We believe the government in Argentina is more inclined than most to boycott the Moscow Games. Our relations with Argentina have improved since General Goodpaster's recent visit there as the President's personal emissary. President Carter has sent President Videla a letter of appreciation for the cordial reception accorded General Goodpaster that also encouraged Argentine support on the Olympics. Our human rights report on Argentina came as a welcome surprise to the government, which translated and published the entire text. The Argentines want relations with us to continue to improve, and they know their support on the Olympics would be welcomed by us.

We believe, therefore, there is a reasonable chance of convincing the Argentine Government to decide soon and declare publicly in favor of non-participation in Moscow. This high-level approach to Ambassador Aja Espil is an essential first step in this direction.

GDS 2/21/86

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BOX 8114 (2/21)

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000046)
U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS
Margaret P. Grafeld, Director
☒ Release ☐ Exclde ☐ Deny
Exemption(s):
Declassify: ☐ In Part ☒ In Full
☐ Classify as ☐ Extend as ☐ Downgrade to
Date Declassify on Reason

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I will sit in on the meeting in order to provide details on our Olympics efforts. General talking points, with emphasis on the need for a firm response to the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, are attached for your use.

(For your information, the GOA is quite upset over the position the USDEL is taking in the current meeting of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights. Ambassador Aja Espil made a demarche to Ambassador Bowdler on this this afternoon.)

Attachments:

1. Memo re Latin America
2. Talking Points

Drafted: ARA/PPC:GBrown; S/OL: NAnderson:jk Clearance: S/OL: Nledsky
x24727; x29384 2/11/80 ARA/ECA: Madams
HA: DMar *DM*

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